

The Humanities and the Natural World

Humanities 325

Section: J100

Term: 2012 Summer

Instructor: Dr. Brook Pearson

Discussion Topics: Discourse in the humanities has often revolved around the definition of human, or of the idea of a self. The nexus between this and understanding relations between humans, or the connections between humanity and the (rest of the) natural world is exactly what Humanities subjects are all about. Philosophy, theology, psychoanalysis, literature even historical and political discussions provide multiple, often contradictory definitions and solutions to the problems raised by this nexus. These sorts of definitions and solutions seem, from outside observation, often to become cyclical one part of a given solution relies upon on a definition that, eventually, depends upon the solution itself.

\x09The purpose of this course is to investigate the degree to which the idea of nature plays a role in determining, measuring and otherwise assessing the role of the individual in human society. Utilizing three famous approaches to these problems from the recent French philosophical tradition, this course will interact with film, literature and art to investigate the self, nature and society.

Grading: Attendance and Participation\x0925%

Film Responses\x0935%

Term Paper\x0940%

Required Texts: Gilles Deleuze and Félix Guattari, *Anti-Oedipus: Capitalism and Schizophrenia*, ISBN: 978-0143105824

Jacques Derrida, *The Monolingualism of the Other, Or, The Prosthesis of Origin*, ISBN: 978-0804732895

Jacques Lacan, *Écrits*, ISBN: 978-0393329254

Recommended Texts:

Materials/Supplies:

Prerequisite/Corequisite: 45 units.

Notes: This course is designated B-HUM and meets the Breadth-Humanities undergraduate degree requirements.

This outline is derived from a course outline repository database that was maintained by SFU Student Services and the University's IT Services Department. The database was retired in 2014 and the data migrated to SFU Archives in 2015.